501.43402X00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

H. SATO, et al

Serial No.:

10/767,196

Filing Date: January 30, 2004

For:

DISK ARRAY DEVICE HAVING SP SK DRIVE AND DATA

SPARING METHOD

LETTER CLAIMING RIGHT OF PRIORITY

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Under the provisions of 35 USC 119 and 37 CFR 1.55, applicants hereby claim the right of priority based on:

> Japanese Application No. 2003-354557 Filed: October 15, 2003

A Certified copy of said application document is attached hereto.

Acknowledgement thereof is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Carl I. Brundidge

Registration No. 29,621

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

July 20, 2004

CIB/jdc **Enclosures** 703/312-6600